



# *News Release*

**Maine District Office**

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## **U.S. Small Business Administration Announces Annual Award Winners**

### **Leigh Kellis, Owner of The Holy Donut Receives SBA's Small Business Person of the Year Award for Maine**

Augusta, Maine – The U.S. Small Business Administration is pleased to announce that Leigh Kellis, founder of The Holy Donut in Portland has been selected to receive the Small Business Person of the Year Award for Maine, the SBA's most prestigious award given in the state.

The Holy Donut is a donut shop specializing in potato-based donuts, with two locations in Portland and one in Scarborough. The business also sells its donuts wholesale to Whole Foods and Coffee by Design. Ms. Kellis was selected for this award based on the continued growth of her business and the contributions she has made to the local community.

"The story of Leigh Kellis and The Holy Donut perfectly illustrates the entrepreneurial spirit and tenacity necessary to start and grow a thriving business in Maine," said SBA's Maine District Director, Amy K. Bassett. "The success that Leigh has achieved is both remarkable and inspiring," added Bassett.

"I am so flattered by this award," said Ms. Kellis. "The success of this business has been the result of an awesome team and a very appreciative and supportive customer base. I am so grateful," she added. **NOTE: A photo of Leigh Kellis making Holy Donuts is attached.**

Ms. Kellis was nominated for this award by Nancy Strojny, Chapter Chair of the Portland Chapter of SCORE.

Ms. Kellis will compete with the nation's top small businesses for the honor of National Small Business Person of the Year during the SBA's National Small Business Week celebration, April 30-May 1. The National Winner will be selected in Washington, D.C. on May 1<sup>st</sup>.

Ms. Kellis will be honored at the 2017 SBA Small Business Awards Celebration on May 15, 2017 at the Hilton Garden Inn in Freeport. For additional information about the event please visit [www.sba.gov/me](http://www.sba.gov/me) or call Keith Lind at 207-622-8551.



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